

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 AGR-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 /104 W

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R 080800Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1993

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 4666

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, BG

SUBJ: TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) DACCA 3869, (B) MTN GENEVA 6044, (C) MTN GENEVA 4744,  
(D) STATE 141388

1. SUMMARY: APPROACHES HERE CONCERNING NEED FOR BANGLADESH TO  
RPROVIDE RECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS HAVE MET WITH SAME NEGATIVE RESPONSE  
AS DID THOSE IN GENEVA. END SUMMARY.

2. ECON COUNSELOR MET SEPTEMBER 3 WITH NURUL NABI CHOUDHURY,  
JOINT SECRETARY, COMMERCE AND FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY, TO  
RAISE ISSUES (REFTEL D) AND FOLLOW UP ON  
MEETING (REFTEL A) WITH COMMERCE SECRETARY. CHOUDHURY  
IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENTIRE RANGE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE MATTERS  
INCLUDING GSP/MTN/GATT MATTERS, AS WELL AS UNCTAD/ESCAP/EEC AND  
THER MULTILATERAL AND COMMODITY AGREEMENTS. HE RESPONDED TO  
PRESENTATION CONCERNING NEED FOR SOME RECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS BY

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ARGUING, AS BDG REP HAD DONE AT MID-JUNE BILATERAL TALKS

(REFTEL C), THAT BANGLADESH AS LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRY, WAS ENTITLED TO SPECIAL TREATMENT IN ACCORDANCE PARA 6 OF TOKYO DECLARATION.

3. CHOUDHURY ARGUED FIRST THAT GENERAL CASE FOR RECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS WAS DOUBTFUL AND SECOND THAT BANGLADESH, AS LEAST DEVELOPED AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS ENTITLED TO SPECIAL TREATMENT AS AGREED IN TOKYO DECLARATION. THESE TWO POINTS, IN CHOUDHURY'S VIEW, BOTH REINFORCED BDG POSITION THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO MAKE RECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS.

4. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THERE IS MUCH MORE TO BE DONE THERE AT THIS TIME ON RECIPROCITY ISSUE. HOWEVER, NURUL NABI HOUDHURY IS KEY OFFICIAL IN BDG ON THESE ISSUES AND BDG DOES OCCASIONALLY INSTRUCT ITS DELEGATION IN GENEVA, SO FURTHER APPROACH MIGHT HELP PRODUCE A CHANGE OF ATTITUDE. WE JUDGE SUCH A CHANGE WOULD DEPEND, INTER ALIA, ON WHETHER OFFER OF CONCESSIONS (ON SUCH PRODUCTS AS JUTE GOODS) WAS CONSIDERED SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT BY BDG AND WHETHER OTHER LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ACCEPTED US VIEW ON RECIPROCITY.  
BOSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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